

# Mayor's Messages

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4

AUGUST 15, 2004

## Thousands Attend National Night Out

On August 3, millions of people celebrated National Night Out in communities across Cincinnati and the nation. The Ault Park Advisory Council (APAC) and Police District Two partnered on one of these events aimed at promoting positive police-community relations.

The sounds of *Most Wanted*, a band of local police officers filled the air, as did the smell of free burgers, pizza, snacks, and drinks. Police horses, dogs, bicycles, special vehicles and numerous information booths sur-



rounded the Ault Park Pavilion. Children were playing on the hillsides with the special Cincinnati Police Frisbees given away at the event. All of this interaction is made possible by supporters who provide time, money and products to continue this 5 year tradition.

These festivities served as the backdrop for the most important reason for the event – an opportunity for the citizens, police and public officials to get to know each other better in the relaxed atmosphere of one of Cincinnati's jewels – Ault Park. Conversations ranged from police and citizens exchanging tips on similar hobbies to discussions of current problems facing the 13 communities in District Two and the rest of the city. And, as one of the event's coordinators said, "Lots of children and police officers



had a very positive experience that the APAC organizers hope will last a lifetime."

The Police were very pleased with the support of the Communities. Residents were happy to engage with the public officials who attended. Mayor Charlie Luken, Council Member David Pepper, Hamilton County Commissioner Phil Heimlich, Assistant Police Chief Cindy Combs, and Detective Dick Gross spoke as part of the formal program. Anyone interested in being part of next year's National Night Out in Ault Park on August 2, 2005, should call Peter Brumm at 513-227-2640.

## City Employee Honored for Service



*At his welcome home reception: wife, Lisa Brondhaver, Valerie Lemmie, Sgt. Brondhaver, Mayor Luken and Tanner, Morgan and Connor Brondhaver.*

Staff Sergeant Paul Brondhaver was welcomed back to the City of Cincinnati by Mayor Luken, Valerie Lemmie and co-workers from the Cincinnati Recreation Commission. He had been serving in Iraq when he was injured by a rocket-propelled grenade.

In his position with CRC,

Brondhaver has served as a leader of programs at several of the city's recreation centers, including Clifton, English Woods, Oakley, and Mount Washington.

To show our thanks to and respect for Staff Sergeant Brondhaver, Mayor Luken presented him with a Key to the City on August 3, 2004.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Bringing Home the Gold!	2
Lessons in Unity	2
News from Roselawn	3
Spotlight on Development	3
Mayor's Letter	4

### BY THE NUMBERS

*This November, there will be many issues on the ballot, including an attempt to repeal Article XII of the City's Charter. After a petition was submitted to the Clerk of Council, City Council approved the issue for the November ballot at its August 3 meeting.*

*The repeal of Article XII would make it possible for City Council to consider and pass legislation to protect gays and lesbians from discrimination. The ballot language follows:*

*"Be it resolved by the people of Cincinnati that Article XII of the Charter of the City be repealed. This amendment to the City Charter shall in all respects be self-executing. Article XII shall be null and void and of no force and effect."*

## Team Cincinnati Wins Two Silver Medals At International Children's Games!

Team Cincinnati – one of several teams representing the United States at the International Children's Games in Cleveland, Ohio won two Silver Medals in the track and field competition on Sunday.

Rhyan Daniels, 13, won the silver in the girl's 100 meter and was also part of the girl's relay team that won the 4 by 100 meter that included Rhyan's sister Britney – 15, Katie Evans – 12, and Evelyn Cooper - 13. Erica Kao, 13, placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the girl's 50 meter butterfly



*The Silver Medalist 4 by 100 relay (left to right): Aysha McRoberts (coach), Karen Evans, Evelyn Cooper, Britney Daniels, Rhyan Daniels and Curtis Battle (coach).*

swimming finals. Team Cincinnati consisted of 25 team members; age 12-15, from all over the city. Each member won qualifying meets, matches or time trials to be selected for the team.

Team Cincinnati competed in Track and Field, Swimming and Tennis. Over 2,000 kids from 57 different countries participated in

the games. President Bush spoke to all of the athletes on Friday. This year marked the first time the International Children's Games were held in the United States, since the first games in Celje, Slovenia in 1968

We are very proud of all the athletes who represented Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Recreation Commission in the Games! Congratulations on a terrific job!



## Lessons in Unity

Mayor Luken and others had the exciting opportunity to meet one of America's rising stars in the political world by hosting a reception here in Cincinnati for Senator Barak Obama.

Barak Obama is currently a state Senator from Illinois, but he is also a candidate for a U.S. Senate seat in that

state.

Because of his unique background, Sen. Obama has become a symbol for the endless opportunities that America can offer to everyone. His ability to unite both black and white voters on important issues provides an important lesson from which we in Cincinnati can surely learn.



## News from Roselawn

Realizing that we are living in a time when violence is escalating in our neighborhoods, cities, in our country, and in our world, Roselawn is holding an exhibition of art that will create positive dialogue and reflect their desire to promote nonviolence.

Already, exciting preparations are underway in Roselawn for the opening of the *A is for Ahimsa – Nonviolence* exhibit at the Roselawn Center Building (7390 Reading Road) on Saturday September 11, 2004 from 5 until 9PM. Twenty-five regional artists representing a broad spectrum of age, background, and ethnicity have been commissioned to produce a work addressing the theme of *ahimsa*, a Sanskrit word embodying the concept of respect for all living things.

located in the Roselawn Business District (Reading and Section Roads), is currently undergoing an extreme makeover as the community seizes this opportunity to stimulate conversation about how we create the society we live in. The exhibit will run from September 11 thru 25, 2004. A calendar of events for the entire *A is for Ahimsa – Nonviolence* program

(September thru November) is available on the Roselawn Community Council website, [www.roselawn.org](http://www.roselawn.org). All events will be open to the public at no charge. Please join us this Fall as we re-imagine Roselawn!

Roselawn Community Council is pleased to acknowledge the City of Cincinnati, INVEST in Neighborhoods, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Ohio Humanities Council, Media Bridges, and Paran Management for their support of *A is for Ahimsa – Nonviolence*.

*-Submitted by Nancy Sonnenberg of the Roselawn Community Council.*



*Volunteers work to give the Ahimsa gallery a new look before the exhibition.*

The gallery site, prominently

*If you are interested in spreading the word about events or other news in your neighborhood, send an e-mail to [becky.faust@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:becky.faust@cincinnati-oh.gov)*



## Spotlight on Development: Fourth and Race



After years of work and negotiations, the City has finally entered into an agreement, which will bring life back to the vacant McAlpin's, Newstedt-Loring-Andrews and Frisch's buildings at the corner of Fourth and Race Streets!

Back in 2001, the City of Cincinnati entered into a lease agreement for redevelopment with the Fourth and Race Limited Partnership. Through this arrangement, the City and pri-

vate investors worked for over three years to invest in and redevelop one of the most complained about corners in Downtown Cincinnati.

The new lease agreement means that where three vacant buildings stand now, there soon will be street level retail, new office space, 64 new market-rate condos, and 70 new parking spaces. The condos will range in size from 1,100 square feet to 3,200 square feet and range between

\$199,000 and \$750,000 in price. The first floor of these buildings will be comprised of 9,000 square feet of new retail space.

We are very pleased to announce this huge economic development success and would like to acknowledge the hard work and long hours spent on this project by our Economic Development team here at City Hall, led by Valerie Lemmie and Chad Munitz.

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online at  
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DELIVER TO:

## Letter from the Mayor

Dear Cincinnati:

The question I am asked most often this month: "What are you going to do next?"

My answer: "Keep our great city moving in a positive direction."

The recent news about Cincinnati has been good. The latest article, published in the *Chicago Sun Times*, talks about Cincinnati as a comeback city, full of excellent attractions and a pleasant quality of life.

Never before has our city changed so rapidly and so dramatically as it has in the past three years. But after decades of trying, we have, as a government, moved forward in critical areas. We are expanding the Cinergy Convention Center. We have over hauled our licensing and permit process by putting it all in a one-stop center, and it is getting rave reviews from developers. We have a framework to improve police community

relations, a framework that promises to bring lasting success in the fight against crime. We have retained or brought more than 10,000 jobs to the City, in stark contrast to cities who have seen corporate headquarters leave. We have invested in our neighborhoods to give them new housing, greener streetscapes and greatly improved recreational opportunities and parks. We have partnered with our citizens and business community to create one of the most powerful non-profit development corporations in America: 3CDC.

In short, led by our underappreciated City Manager Valerie Lemmie, Cincinnati has laid the foundation for the future.

So, what am I going to do next? Put more cops on the street to partner with our newly created citizen army that has been mobilized to fight crime.

Look for new attractions (including a casino) to come to our city that will add to our already outstanding arts, sports and cultural venues. Fix and redevelop Fountain Square, without moving the fountain. And keep investments in our neighborhoods as strong as money will allow.

We are a city on the move. As the *Enquirer* recently noted in an editorial, it is time for the negative perceptions to catch up with the positive realities. We deserve greater and more positive recognition of the special community we share. Sincerely,

Charlie Luken  
Mayor, City of Cincinnati

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